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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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COUNTRY USSR/East Germany

REPORT

SUBJECT Soviet Army Supply (UNIFORMS,
TRAINING MIL-HOSPITALS, REPAIR &
MAINTENANCE)

DATE DISTR. 16 September 1955

NO. OF PAGES 27

DATE OF INFO.

REQUIREMENT NO.

25X1

PLACE ACQUIRED

REFERENCES

25X1

DATE ACQUIRED

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SOURCE EVALUATIONS ARE DEFINITIVE. APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.

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ARMY review completed.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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(Note: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

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PLACE ACQUIRED

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25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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Partial Soviet Standard Brief No. 4

SOVIET ARMY SUPPLY

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Partial Soviet Standard Brief No 4

SOVIET ARMY SUPPLY

Introduction

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A. SUPPLY ORGANIZATION

1. Regimental Level, 459th Mortar Regt (See Annex A)

[redacted] the Deputy CO for Supply (Zamestitel' Kommandira Po Snabzheniyu), a lieutenant colonel of infantry, was responsible for the supply of food, clothing, billeting and billeting items and certain items of individual equipment. This officer was subordinate to the regimental CO. 1.

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To accomplish his mission, the Deputy CO for Supply was assisted by two officers, the Chief of Food and Forage Supply and the Chief of Clothing and Equipment Supply, as well as by a Housekeeping Platoon. 1. The Chief of Food and Forage Supply, a company-grade officer, was responsible to the Deputy CO for the storage and issue of all rations, both current and emergency; for the operation of the EM and officers' mess halls, and [redacted] for the operation of the regimental post exchange (Lavka).

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The Chief of the Clothing and Supply Section was responsible to the Dep CO for Supply for the storage and issuance of personal clothing and equipment, for the tailor and shoe-repair shops, for the bathing facilities, and for the laundering of items of personal clothing and bedding.

The Housekeeping Platoon was responsible for providing the necessary personnel to the Chief of Food and Forage Section and the Chief of Clothing and Equipment Supply for these officers to carry out their missions. In addition to this, the Housekeeping Platoon operated the Billeting Section under direct supervision of the Deputy CO for Supply. The platoon also operated a drivers' pool which provided transportation for all personnel under the direction of the Deputy CO for Supply.

2. Artillery Ordnance Services

[redacted] this service was operated separately from the service mentioned in section A, 1. The Regimental Chief of Artillery Supply and Repair (or the Chief of Artillery Ordnance Services (Nachal'nik Po Artilleriyskomu Snabzheniyu) as he was sometimes referred to) headed these services. This officer, an Artillery major, was subordinate both to the Regimental Chief of Staff and to the Divisional Chief of Artillery in some unknown manner.

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This Regimental Chief of Artillery Supply and Repair was responsible for the storage, issuance, and requisitioning of all types of ammunition used by the 459th Mortar Regt, and for the repair, maintenance, issue, and

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requisitioning of all types of arms and weapons of the regiment. To accomplish his mission, this officer was supported by an Artillery Supply and Repair Platoon, headed by an artillery captain, which provided necessary personnel for the small-arms and the mortar repair shops and for the transportation, storage, requisitioning, and issue of ammunition. (See Annex B)

Since ammunition was supplied to the entire PRENZLAU Garrison from a common ammunition dump (see Annex C for its pinpoint location and description) the Regimental Chief of Artillery Supply and Repair was responsible only for that portion of the common ammunition dump which held the ammunition of the 459th Mortar Regt.

Also included in the Artillery Supply and Repair Platoon was the Radio Repair Section and the Chemical Items Repair Section. These two sections were placed in this platoon only as a matter of convenience and were therefore subordinate to it for administrative and disciplinary matters only. Staff supervision of these two sections was under the guidance of the Regimental Chief of Communications and the Regimental Chief of Chemical Services.

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3. Other Supply Organizations of 459th Mortar Regt

the various chiefs of services of the regiment were responsible for the supply of their own particular services. These chiefs included the Chief of Communications, the Chief of Chemical Services, and the Chief of Automobile Services. 2.

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they all drew supplies for their own particular services through channels separate from those used by the Deputy CO for Supply and the Chief of Artillery Supply and Repair.

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all the chiefs of services mentioned above drew directly from corresponding services at division level.

The Regimental Chief of Communications was responsible for all requisitioning and supply of signal items as required by the regiment. He drew signal equipment and signal supplies from the Divisional Signal Engineer Officer (Enzhiner po Svyazi). This latter officer, a Signal Service Captain, was presumably responsible to the Divisional Chief of Communication, a Signal Service Lieutenant Colonel, for supply and resupply of signal equipment and for the technical operation and supply of all signal repair facilities that were found in each division sub-unit.

There was no signal repair shop at division level, although the division Signal Battalion had its own signal repair shop. However, this repair shop was primarily for servicing the Signal Battalion. All complex repairs of division signal equipment was accomplished at the 4th Gds Mecz Army Signal Repair Shop in EBERSWALDE (5250N-1350E). 3.

In actuality, the Divisional Signal Engineer Officer did not maintain a signal warehouse. As soon as signal equipment was received by him, presumably from Army level, he immediately issued this equipment to the regiments and separate battalions of the division. As soon as the Division Signal Engineer Officer received signal equipment, he called the Chief of Communications of the 459th Mortar Regiment. The latter then went personally to ORANIENBURG (5245N-1314E) or sent someone to pick it up.

supplies were handled for the remaining services in the regiment the same procedure as the Chief of Communications did.

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4. Mortar Battalion Level

[redacted] there were no supply organizations at mortar-battalion level.

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5. Battery and Separate Platoon Level

The first sergeants of the mortar batteries and the platoon sergeants of the separate regimental platoons were the supply links between their units and the regimental supply organizations. These NCO's were responsible for drawing all items, regardless of type, for their particular units.

6. Miscellaneous Supply Information

[redacted] the word "rear" meant any area that was not actually on the front line. It also meant all services that were engaged in keeping the front line troops supplied.

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[redacted] the Ministry of Defense was responsible for supply procurement, but he had no information on procurement matters.

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B. MEDICAL PROCEDURES1. Exams Before and During Induction

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The first of these examinations took place in KASHIRA (5450N-3812E). This city was apparently an intermediate processing point between the draft board (Voyenkomat) and the basic training unit [redacted] superficial medical examination. [redacted] height, weight, and lung capacity were measured; an instrument (details unknown) tested his gripping strength; and his extremities were examined visually. No X-rays were taken and no blood tests were given. Draftees were also asked general questions on whether they had any complaints on their own physical condition; and those who complained were examined further.

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This examination [redacted] was conducted by military medical personnel [redacted]

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[redacted] about two percent of the inductees were rejected for unknown reasons at this point.

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2. Exams During Basic Training

Following the intermediate examination [redacted]

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[redacted] subjected to a very thorough medical examination, conducted by medical personnel who apparently came from the local garrison. [redacted] physical characteristics were recorded; a blood test was taken; an urinalysis was made; an X-ray was taken; and a distance chart was used to check the eyes.

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teeth were checked, and [redacted]
 an ear test. A check for ruptures was
 made, as well as a visual check for VD. [redacted] two inoculations

All information gained from these tests were recorded in the draftee's individual medical book (meditsinskaya knizhka). This book subsequently accompanied [redacted] conscripted service. It was normally kept in the medical section of his unit. 6. 25X1

3. Exams at Unit in East Germany

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[redacted] the 459th Mortar Regt, 25th Tk Div stationed in PRENZLAU (5319N-1352E). [redacted] all new arrivals were given a superficial medical examination by the medical section of the regiment. In general, the recruits were asked whether they had any complaints on their physical condition. If a recruit had none, his examination was immediately concluded and a notation of his negative answer and lack of physical deficiencies made in his medical book. [redacted] 25X1

After this examination, all personnel were supposed to undergo a limited type of physical examination each month. This periodic examination generally followed the pattern of only asking about any physical complaints. Occasionally lung-capacity was tested, height and weight measured. This information was also recorded in the individual's medical book. 25X1

In addition, all personnel stationed in the PRENZLAU garrison had a chest X-ray taken periodically. [redacted] 25X1

They were taken in the area of the 83d Hv Tk SP Regt where fixed X-ray facilities had been constructed and installed.

If physical deficiencies were discovered by means of these medical exams or brought to the attention of the medical personnel of the regimental medical section, steps were taken to cure a man at regimental level. If this was not possible, personnel were then evacuated to a hospital or polyclinic in the PRENZLAU area. Up to about 1952 personnel had been sent to an unidentified military hospital in EBERSWALDE (5250N-1350E). 7. After that date, however, an unidentified military hospital was set up in PRENZLAU itself to service the PRENZLAU garrison. 8

4. Medical Installations and Personnel

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a. In the 4th Gds Mecz Army Area (Including PRENZLAU Garrison)

[redacted] the unidentified military hospital in EBERSWALDE that is mentioned above (see section C. 5). 7 [redacted] this was a 4th Gds Mecz Army hospital and [redacted] the total medical personnel consisted of about 100 officers. EM. and EW. It was a large 2- to 3-story stone and concrete building. [redacted]

b. In the BERLIN Area.

[redacted] information on medical installations and facilities in the BERLIN-Karls-horst area. 10. That pertinent to this Soviet Standard Brief is as follows: 25X1

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(1) Unidentified Polyclinic

This installation was headed by a female, name unknown, who had the rank of lieutenant colonel of the medical branch of service. It was more or less of the "in-patient and out-patient" type.

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three or four EW in the receiving office, three or four EW in the dental clinic section and a male major in the eye clinic.

(2) Unidentified Hospital

both civilian and military personnel worked in this hospital. In addition to EM there was a large group of female military personnel working here; and part of the latter were officers.

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(3) Karlshorst Compound Medical Section

Within the Karlshorst Compound itself, there was a small medical section which serviced certain units within the compound. 10.

5. Medical Treatment

no information concerning medical treatment within the BERLIN area.

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6. Field Supplies of Drinking Water

Although the responsibility for furnishing drinking water to troops in the field rested with unit mess halls, the latter were not able to accomplish this in practice because they had no containers. Instead, all vehicles were equipped with old German Army "jerry cans". These were filled when needed wherever water was available.

Normally troops filled their canteens from wells or streams in the vicinity of their field training area. Although this practice was not a desirable one and was deplored by unit medical authorities, it was not expressly forbidden. The regimental medical section had the responsibility of testing water in the field, but this was seldom done.

there were no Soviet Army water-filtering units. the Deputy CO for Supply merely drew drinking water from available German sources.

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There was no water discipline training. Also, salt tablets were never issued or used.

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7. Medical and First-Aid Training

[redacted] basic training in the USSR [redacted] about two to three hours of first-aid training. This was very rudimentary and included the use of the individual first-aid packet (none of which were ever issued), the care of feet, and the method of applying a tourniquet.

In the 459th Mortar Regt [redacted] about two to four hours were spent annually on basic first-aid training. This was normally conducted by the battalion medical NCO's. Students of the Regimental school were given more extensive first-aid training. This training totaled from four to six hours and was conducted by the platoon leaders of the school or by someone from the Regimental Medical Section.

C. SUPPLY AND MAINTENANCE OF INDIVIDUAL EQUIPMENT1. Equipment Brought from the USSR

[redacted]

Quantity	Item	Material	Color	Description and Remarks
1 pr	Leather boots (Plastic topped)	Plastic & Leather	Black	[redacted] issued new pair every 8 months. In the Soviet Zone of Germany only leather boots were issued when leather and plastic ones were turned in.
1	Tunic	Cotton	OD	New set issued every 6 months.
1 pr	Breeches	Cotton	OD	New set issued every 6 months.
1	Overcoat	Broadcloth	Gray	Issued for 3-year period.
1	Overseas Hat	Broadcloth	OD	Exchanged in the winter for flannel cap.
2 pr	Foot wrappings	Cotton	White	Exchanged every 10 days. Winter type issued for winter period.
2	Belt	Cloth	Green	Issued to last entire service.
2 pr	Underwear	Cotton	White	One set exchanged every 10 days for clean set. In winter EM were issued winter underwear.

2. Initial Issue in East Germany

[redacted] in the 459th Mortar Regt [redacted] issued the following clothing items [redacted]

Quantity	Item	Material	Color	Description and Remarks
1	Tunic	Heavy Cotton Broadcloth	OD	
1 pr	Breeches	Heavy Cotton Broadcloth	OD	
1 pr	Gloves	Cotton	Green	For winter use.

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<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Material</u>	<u>Color</u>	<u>Description and Remarks</u>
1	Flannel Cap	Flannel	Gray	For winter use.
1	Bushlat (short coat)	Heavy Cotton Broadcloth	OD	Issued in addition to overcoat.

The following items of equipment were also issued [] in the 25X1 regiment. These were of the conventional Soviet issue types.

<u>Item</u>	<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Gas mask	1	Shelm-1 type
Meat can	1	
Canteen and canteen cup	1 each	
Carrying bag	1	Canvas
Carbine	1	7.62-mm; type M 1944
Cartridge case	1	
Entrenching Shovel	1	
Gas cape	1	

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No types of blouses or jackets were issued to either conscripts or reenlistees in the PRENZLAU area, with the exception that music platoons of the various regiments were issued a single-breasted jacket for duty wear. For bedding [] two sheets, one blanket, two mattress covers, and a pillow case. The mattress covers and pillow cases were filled with straw. There were very few standard sizes of pillows and mattresses. 25X1

3. Initial Issues to Re-Enlistees

Conscripts who became reenlistees turned in all their clothing as soon as they were accepted for reenlistee tours. They received a complete new set of the conventional OD uniform i.e., tunic and breeches, plus an additional uniform which consisted of an OD, heavier-type cotton tunic, a pair of heavy-type blue breeches and a service cap (Furazhka). It was rumored that conscripts in the PRENZLAU area would also receive a pair of blue trousers for "walking out".

4. Clothing Sizes

Clothing sizes ran from size 1 (smallest) to size 5 (largest).

5. Shoulderboards and Emblems

All EM [] wore the conventional artillery shoulderboards. The only distinguishing features on these shoulderboards were the metallic emblem. Some medical personnel, signal personnel, and drivers wore the emblems of their respective services. Others among the

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medical, signal, and driver personnel wore artillery emblems since emblems of their respective services were not available from time to time. The remainder of the EM wore an artillery emblem on their artillery shoulderboards. In many instances, many EM wore no emblems.

All the officers of the regiment, with the exception of the doctors, wore the conventional officer's gold shoulderboard, either with or without the artillery emblem. The doctors wore the conventional type, narrow silver medical officer's shoulderboards with the medical-services emblem.

In general, regulations concerning the wear of shoulderboards were quite lax. But prior to the semi-annual inspections by a higher headquarters, an attempt was made to insure that all personnel wore a branch-of-service emblem on their shoulderboards.

6. Clothing Shortages

However, [] no clothing shortages [] in Germany. [] two sets of uniforms were insufficient for the EM. The situation was worse during basic training since all recruits were issued only one uniform during the period and received their second uniform only upon arrival at their regular unit. It was impossible to keep this one set clean.

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7. Wearing of the Uniform by Discharged Servicemen

This was permitted, provided that shoulderboards and other distinguishing marks were removed. Many civilians wore such clothing in the USSR. Upon completing their tours of service, conscripts were permitted to keep the overcoat, one uniform, gloves, and boots. Therefore, they tried to keep the one set of clothing which was last issued to them in good condition or even not to wear it at all. Some EM even bought a cheap pair of boots and turned this in when the reissue time for boots came around. In this way they gained another pair of boots. It was also common practice for men about to be demobilized to descend on new arrivals and trade their worn clothing for clothing that had been freshly issued to the recruits. This was quite a problem in all units and efforts to stop this practice were of no avail.

8. Laundrying of Personal Clothing

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Sheets, pillowcases, underwear, towel, and footwrappings were exchanged every 10 days [] when the unit was scheduled for baths. Unit first sergeants and platoon sergeants of separate platoons issued clean items and turned in dirty items to the Clothing and Equipment Section. The latter were in turn sent out by the Deputy CO for Supply for laundrying somewhere in PRENZLAU by a German civilian establishment.

It was possible to have the uniform turned in for laundrying in the same manner, but the chance of getting one's own uniform back was very doubtful. Almost all of the EM therefore washed their own uniforms. Soap was issued by the first sergeants for this purpose.

The Bushlat (shortcoats) that had been issued were turned in to the Deputy CO for Supply in increments. He in turn had them dry-cleaned at an unknown German establishment.

9. Seasonal Changes of Uniform

There were no changes as such. The men did prefer to wear the heavier type of conventional uniform during the winter months, adding to this the overcoat or Bushlat, flannel cap, winter underwear, winter foot-wrappings and gloves.

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10. Issues to Officers

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[redacted] officers were issued certain items of clothing of the same type as that issued to enlisted personnel but of a better quality. They then bought additional items to complete their wardrobes. No officer ever wore the issue type of officers' overcoat even though it was of a better quality than that issued to the EM. All officers had overcoats tailormade or purchased them at the PX.

The quality of clothing issued to officers depended on their rank. Company-grade officers received better-quality uniforms than conscripts, while field-grade officers received still better-quality uniforms. Regimental CO's also were issued a colonel's white fur cap.

11. Turn-in and Salvage of Clothing

In the event clothing was damaged in line of duty, the item would be turned in to the first sergeant, or platoon sergeant if the individual was in a separate platoon. These sergeants were each responsible for maintaining a small storeroom in which they had on hand a few serviceable, though worn, items of clothing. The person who turned in the damaged article was then given a serviceable replacement. The individual would use this item until the time came for the normal issue of the item.

If items were lost, the individual was sometimes admonished and given a serviceable item without any further action. In some cases, however, he was required to pay for the item.

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If clothing or individual items were worn out before the normal issue date, individuals were again given a serviceable replacement item to tide them over. Since the EM possessed only one pair of boots, it was the responsibility of the first sergeant to provide the individual with a serviceable pair while the boots were being repaired.

D. FINANCE AND FOOD RATIONS1. Paya. Pay Scales

[redacted] miscellaneous data on Soviet Army pay scales and pay policy. Pay scales had been changed in 1950. From then on privates received 30 marks a month. Conscripts occupying positions as squad leaders or platoon sergeants were paid 50 East Marks and were credited 50 rubles to their account in the USSR. Conscripts occupying first-sergeant or master-sergeant slots were paid 100 East Marks and were credited with 100 rubles to their accounts in the USSR.

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Reenlistees' and conscript pay depended strictly on the T/O&E position held and not on rank. For example [redacted] a reenlistee received 360 East Marks monthly; and an additional 600 rubles were credited to his account in the USSR.

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Reenlistees occupying officer slots received 420 East Marks a month and were credited with 700 rubles to their account in the USSR.

[redacted] the Regimental Chief of Communication, a major occupying a major's slot, received about 1,175 East Marks and an unknown amount of rubles credited to his account in the USSR. [redacted] in the case of officers, rank and decorations played a role in the pay scale [redacted]

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b. Methods of Making Payment

Conscripts were paid by a company officer or the first sergeant, who received the pay and payroll from the Regimental Chief of Finance. Payday was once a month between the 15th and 17th. There was no paying ceremony.

Officers and reenlistees were paid once a month about the 10th by the Regimental Chief of Finance at his office.

All personnel were required to sign the payroll upon being paid.

2. Quality and Quantity of Food

a. Food Rations for Conscripts

The average daily food ration was as follows in all Soviet units known to Source:

Breakfast

Potato Purée or
Macaroni or Vegetable
Meat Soup

Tea (with 20 g sugar)

Bread (300 g)

Dinner

Cabbage Soup or Borshch
Sometimes potato or fish
soup and vegetables

Main Dish-Porridge or
Macaroni

Bread (300 gm)

Supper

Fish or potato Soup,
Sometimes Herring.

Tea (with 15 g sugar)

Bread (200 g)

Notes: Meat was normally mixed in soup and seldom served separately.
In the summer fresh vegetables or fruit were added to the meals.
In the winter the bread ration was increased by 100 g.
Milk, coffee, eggs, or cheese were never served.

b. Food Rations for Officers

The officers' mess received the same basic ration, but officers and reenlistees paid an additional sum of 60 marks each month so that the Mess Sergeant could add to it. Such additional items were purchased through the Chief of the Food and Forage Section. The 60 marks were deducted from the monthly pay of officers and those reenlistees who ate at the officers' mess by the Regimental Chief of Finance.

c. Holiday Rations

On Soviet holidays there was no change in the basic ration, only an increase of the ration.

d. Factors Affecting Food Quality

[redacted] the quality and the quantity of the ration depended on a large part on the ability of the Deputy CO for Supply in getting his fair share of rations from higher level. [redacted]

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[redacted] while reparations were still in effect (up to the beginning of 1953), the ration was in greater quantity and of better quality. It deteriorated noticeably about this time, [redacted] previously much of the food had been procured from the East Germans. Macaroni, a highly prized menu item, had become much scarcer and meat received was less in quantity and poorer in quality.

E. UNIT SUPPLY AND MAINTENANCE

[redacted] there were no divisional warehouses in this garrison.

1. Emergency Rations (NZ)

[redacted] emergency rations were stored at the regimental food and forage warehouse. However, these rations were crated and never issued.

2. Ammunition Supply

No mortar ammunition was kept within the regimental area. All mortar rounds were kept at the PRENZLAU garrison ammunition dump (see Annex C for its pinpoint location).

Each mortar battery and each separate regimental platoon kept one or two cases of 7.62-mm ammunition for the unit's individual arms. This was stored within its own unit area, under lock and key. An unknown amount of small-arms ammunition and hand grenades were stored at the garrison ammunition dump.

3. Chemical Warfare Supplies

Each EM and officer of the regiment was issued a Shlem-1 type gas mask plus a gas cape. These were the only chemical items in the hands of individuals. In some cases the gas capes remained in the unit first sergeant's storeroom. The gas masks were normally stacked in the unit arms room.

The regimental chemical instructor, an NCO who was responsible to the Regimental Chief of Chemical Services, ran a small chemical storeroom. In this storeroom were boxes of chemical protective stockings. there were enough to issue a set to each individual, since none had previously been issued. There were also a few spare gas masks and gas capes plus two barrels weighing about 500 g that contained an unknown type of decontaminating liquid. There were no individual anti-chemical decontamination packets either in the storeroom or in the hands of the troops.

4. POL Supplies

a. Dispersing and Storage Points

[redacted] Within the PRENZLAU Garrison, there were permanent POL dispersing facilities that apparently had been part of the German installation when the Soviets took it over. 11.

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b. Transportation

[redacted] the tank units of the PRENZLAU Garrison had an unknown number of standard Soviet 3-axled ZIS fuel trucks which brought POL products from an unknown facility.

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For this purpose it used a semi-circular flat-bottomed makeshift tank that could be loaded on the cargo bed of a ZIS, Ford, or Studebaker truck. This tank (capacity unknown) covered the entire cargo bed. The filled tank was removed from the truck bed and then served as the storage tank, after a pumping device was fitted to its opening.

At times, the regiment also trucked in gasoline in 500 l drums, when it did not use the tank described above.

c. Unit Consumption and Restrictions Thereon

[redacted] each vehicle was limited to the number of kilometers of fuel it could use annually. A vehicle that had exceeded its fuel quota for the year was not given any additional fuel. Many times it was necessary to borrow fuel quotas from other vehicles that had not used up their own fuel quotas. However, it was forbidden for unit commanders to use any of their tactical vehicles to perform transport duties unless specifically authorized by the Regimental CO.

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d. Supply Personnel

Driver personnel were usually selected from young recruits. They were then sent to the Divisional Transport Battalion for driver training lasting from four to six months. These drivers returned to their former units after the course. If all driver slots were filled, then these newly trained drivers became assistant drivers. Only a small percentage of all personnel knew how to drive.

All officers of the regiment, in theory, were required to know how to drive. The Regimental Chief of Auto Services organized driver training for the officers. However, most of the officers received little or no practical training since every effort was made to conserve fuel.

5. Signal Equipment

Regimental signal equipment included the A7A, A7B, RB, RBM, RBM-1 radios; the EE-8A and captured German army phones; the K-10 switchboards, and wire reels. 13.

6. Repair and Maintenance Facilities

a. In the 459th Mortar Regt

In addition to the repair shops under the direction of the Regimental Chief of Artillery Supply and Repair and the other repair and maintenance facilities under the direction of the Regimental Deputy CO for Supply (see Annexes A and B for the organization of supply services) there was also an "Automotive Platoon" capable of doing second and third echelon maintenance and repair work. 12. This platoon was under the direction of the Regimental Chief of Auto Services who was subordinate in turn to the Regimental C/S.

b. Advanced Repair Facilities

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[redacted] this work was accomplished at 25X1
the 4th Gds. Army Automotive Repair Shops in FINOW (5250N-1342E).

c. Vehicle Repairs

[redacted] 25X1
[redacted] the tank regiments located
in the PRENZLAU Garrison did some type of repair work on their tanks,
such as removing and repairing tank treads.

The tank regiments utilized T-34 tanks without turrets
for any recovery work.

d. Ordnance Repairs

Within the PRENZLAU Garrison was located the Division Artillery
Repair Shop (DARM). This facility was headed by an unidentified artillery
major. [redacted] there were about 20 EM and officers in this 25X1
organization. It made some (not capital) repairs on 122-mm Howitzers of
the 10th Howitzer Bn, unknown caliber AT guns of the 20th Mixed Rifle Regt,
and all Division mortars. [redacted] this facility did not 25X1
handle any repairs to tank guns or other tank armament. In addition to the
above, it made repairs on small arms that could not be handled by regimental
artillery repair facilities. 25X1

e. Signal Repairs

(1) At Regimental Level

Each of the regiments of the PRENZLAU Garrison had a small
radio repair section. This was normally staffed by one or two EM, although
there was a signal officer-technician in the section in some cases. Such
was the case in the 20th Mixed Rifle Regt and also in the 175th Tr Regt.

[redacted] 25X1
[redacted] they could
be compared more or less to [redacted] Section [redacted] described below.

[redacted] 25X1
[redacted] items of equipment in [redacted] regimental radio-repair section.

<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
6	Air identification panels.	Never used
10 km	Telephone cable.	Captured German Army type although the unit was supposed to have the PTF-7 type.
1	Non-electric hand-soldering iron.	
2	Hand drills	
50	2K2M radio tubes	Current supply
10	60257 radio tubes	Current supply

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<u>Quantity</u>	<u>Item</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
1	Gasoline generator	US type RZH 6 (1 1/2 KW)
	Assorted hand tools	Such as pliers and wire cutters
1	Electrolite for radio batteries	
1 or 2	Spare radio batteries	When a supply was received they were usually immediately distributed to the regimental units.
1	Voltmeter	
	Various mock-ups and training aids	Used for instruction on regimental signal equipment.

25X1

the hand drills, the soldering iron, and some batteries. With the aid of the hand tools, the voltmeter, he was able to keep the regimental signal equipment in operating order.

25X1

No radio-repair work was done at battery and battalion levels.

It was the general rule that radio personnel were not to tinker with their sets, other than replacing tubes and changing batteries.

(2) At Division Level

There were no radio or signal repair shops at Division level to service the regiments. The division signal battalion did have a radio-repair shop (Radio Masterskaya) that serviced the signal battalion only.

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The regiments depended upon radio and signal maintenance support directly from the 4th Gds Mecz Army Radio Repair Shops. This unit sent a mobile repair van (Pokhodnaya Radio Masterskaya) around the divisional units to make radio repairs which the sub-units were incapable of doing. This van visited [] at least twice annually. It carried spare parts and was manned by radio technicians who made repairs on the spot or decided whether a radio could be salvaged.

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25X1

[] In the event that regimental radio repairmen could not make repairs between the regular visits of the van, the regimental Communication Chiefs would borrow radios from each other or would try to have repairs made at one of the other regimental radio-repair shops. If this were not possible, the Regimental Communication Chiefs would then turn the radios in to the 4th Gds Mecz Army Radio Repair Shops for repair. [] a unit would not be able to get a spare radio to use it over while repairs were being made. Instead, it would be forced to borrow a radio from one of the other regiments in the garrison.

25X1

(3) At Army Level

[] the 4th Gds Mecz Army Radio Repair Shops (Armeyskiye Radio Masterskiye

25X1

[] located at FINOW and then had moved to BREITENBURG in the late summer of 1953. [] this radio-repair installation had consisted of five officers, three of whom were radio technicians, one a telephone technician, and one the CO. There were also two reenlisted radio technicians and about 15 conscripts, some of whom were radio technicians and some overhead personnel such as drivers.

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This installation had a variety of testing and repair equipment. [] two GSS-6 and a GSS-1 modulation testers, an unknown type of tube tester, several voltmeters, ohmmeters, and electric soldering irons.

25X1

[] this installation did not have the necessary equipment to test ultra-high-frequency radios; they also had to send this type of radio to some unknown installation for repair.

25X1

25X1

f. Vehicle Maintenance and Storage

All tactical vehicles, towed weapons, and tanks of the units stationed in the PRENZLAU Garrison were normally put in garages and on blocks when not being used for maneuvers, alerts, and other tactical purposes. Normally, only transportation under the supervision of the regimental supply chiefs was not kept this way, since these were used daily for logistical support of the garrison and its units. When the division was in summer camp during the summer training period, the same procedure was followed, except that the vehicles were out in the open on blocks and not in garages as in the winter garrison.

[] the vehicles [] placed in garages were "conservation" vehicles fully gassed, oiled, and ready to roll. It was merely necessary to push them off the blocks and attach to

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them any towed equipment or weapon. The batteries of the vehicles were periodically charged, if necessary. Normally it required only three minutes to put the vehicle in operating condition. Sometimes there was a balky vehicle, but in general all the regimental transportation left the caserne or was ready to roll within 20 minutes after the announcement of an alert.

g. Weapons Maintenance

Unserviceable weapons were turned into the unit first sergeant, who, in turn, took them to the Regimental Small Arms Repair Shop. If the weapon could not be repaired, then a new one was issued by the shop.

7. Supply Maintenance Categories

a. Weapons

Weapons which were newly issued or still in the warehouse were classified as first-category items. Worn but serviceable weapons were classified as second-category items and unserviceable weapons as third-category items. These classifications were determined by an inspection team from DARM (Division Artillery Repair Shops) which came at least once a year. Their arrival usually coincided with the return of Source's regiment from summer camp.

b. Bedding and Individual Clothing

Items of this kind which were newly issued or still in the warehouse were classified as first-category. Worn but serviceable items were classified as second-category and unserviceable items as third-category. Personnel who were about to be demobilized and who had third-category clothing were given second-category clothing in which to be demobilized.

c. Radio and Other Signal Equipment

Any unissued signal equipment was known as first-category. Any signal equipment already issued and serviceable was listed as second-category. Third-category was used to designate unserviceable signal equipment. The signal equipment used for instruction by the 459th Mortar Regimental School was all of the third-category type.

The determination of these categories was the responsibility of the inspection teams from the 4th Gds Mecz Army Signal Warehouse or an inspection team organized by the division Chief of Communication. The latter made at least two inspections annually.

F. OPINIONS ON ARMY SUPPLY SYSTEM

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[REDACTED]

25X1

In addition [REDACTED] most of the radios and other signal equipment was in poor condition and badly overworked [REDACTED] spare radio parts were scarce and the resupply of spare radio and other signal equipment was inadequate and erratic. About the only adequate supply [REDACTED] was the resupply of radio tubes for all the radios of the regiment. Antennas, resistors, and condensers for the regimental radios were practically impossible to obtain through the normal signal supply channels. The fine tuning knobs for the regimental radios were not available even at the 4th Gds Mecz Army signal warehouses.

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Because of the supply deficiencies of radio spare parts, the Regimental Chief of Communications was given a fund to buy radio spare parts on the German economy. However, even with the aid of this fund, he was unable to buy all the necessary radio spare parts that were needed. About the only things that he could and did purchase from this fund were paint, lacquer, radio carrying belts, condensers, resistors, transformers, and materials for making training aids.

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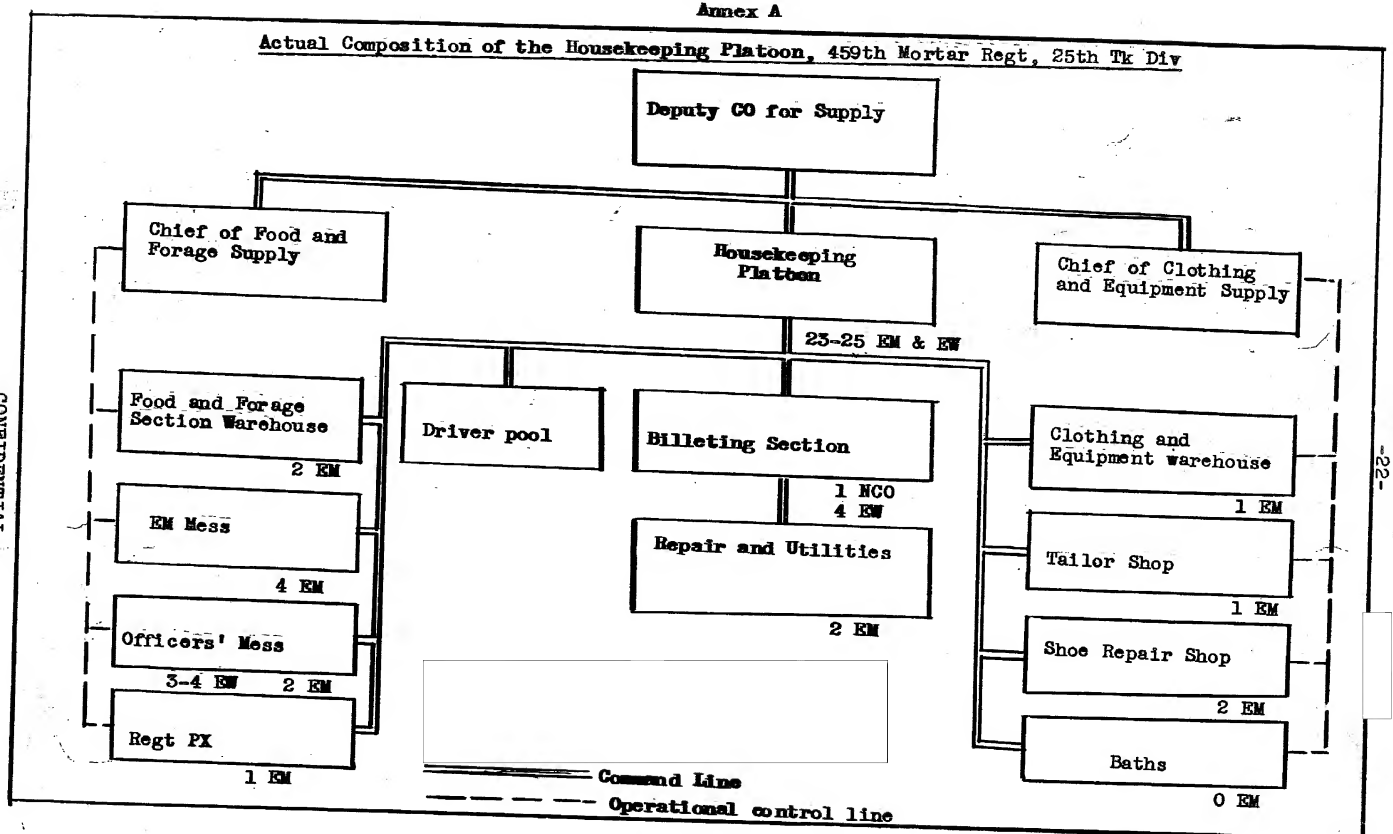
3 Annexes:

- A. Actual Composition of the Housekeeping Platoon, 459th Mortar Regt, 25th Tk Div
- B. Actual Organization of the Artillery Supply and Repair Platoon (Vzvod Artilleriskogo Snabzheniya), 459th Mortar Regt, 25th Tk Div
- C. Pinpoint Location of Ammunition Dump Serving Sub-Units of the 25th Tk Div Stationed in the PRENZLAU Garrison (5319N-1352E)

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Annex A

Actual Composition of the Housekeeping Platoon, 459th Mortar Regt, 25th Tr Div



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25X1

Annex A

Actual Composition of the Housekeeping Platoon,
459th Mortar Regt, 25th TK Div

Note:

1. EW's were not necessarily a part of the housekeeping platoon, even though they worked in the sections as shown. They didn't stand formation with the platoon. They answered more or less directly to the Deputy CO for Supply.
2. The Driver pool serviced all the sections commanded by the Deputy CO for Supply.
3. One EM from one of the sections was detailed to run the baths as required.

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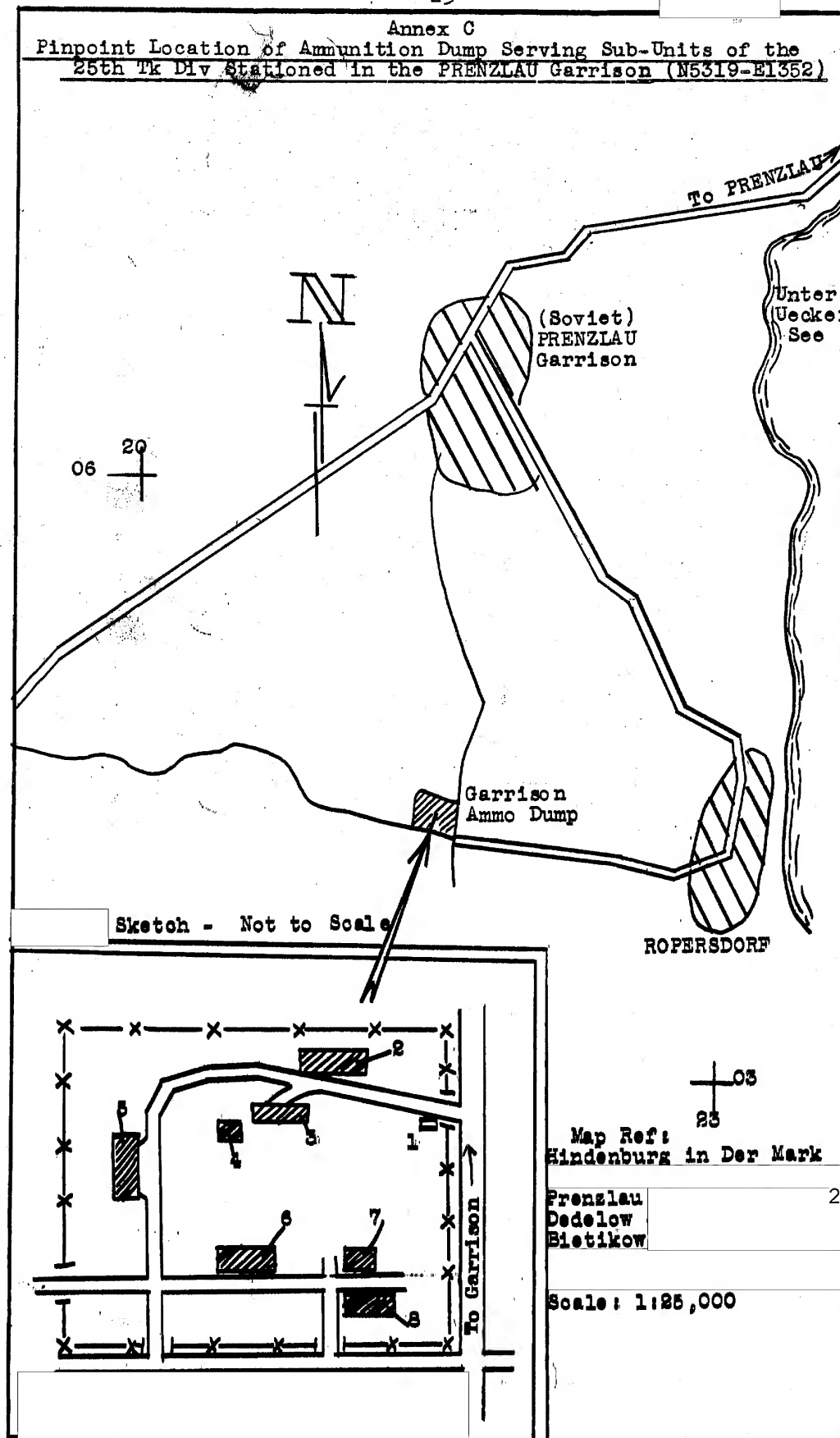
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25X1

Pinpoint Location of Ammunition Dump Serving Sub-Units of the 25th Tk Div
Stationed in the PRENZLAU Garrison (5319N-1352E)

25X1

Legend:

1. Small stone sentry shack: Unoccupied.
2. A reinforced concrete building, about the same size as No. 5.
3. A wooden building, about the same size as No. 5. 25X1
4. A small reinforced concrete bunker, size unknown: Used by the 10th How Bn to store 122-mm mortar rounds.
5. One-story reinforced-concrete building, about 25 x 10 x 4 m. Had two wide doors for vehicle-loading of ammo. This building contained the ammunition used by the 459th Mortar Regt and was almost totally filled with 120-mm mortar rounds in 2-m-high stacks. There were a few boxes of 7.62-mm carbine and automatic PPSH ammunition as well as a few boxes of an unknown type of hand grenade. 25X1
6. One-story reinforced-concrete building, about 10 x 25 m: contents unknown.
7. Guard house: 4 x 7 m wooden building divided into three rooms. Occupied by guard details from the PRENZLAU garrison guard. Ammo dump guarded 24 hours a day by these details.
8. Wooden one-story building, about 10 x 25 m, contents unknown.

Note:

Buildings shown as No 2, 6, and 8 were the ammo storage points of the 20th Mbrzd Rifle Regt, the 175th Tk Regt, and the 83d HTSP Regt

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